

USSN: 10/072,975

8 SEPT 2004

**REMARKS**

Claims 30-57 are pending. Currently amended claims include 35, 36, 42, 43, 49, 50, 56, and 57, each of which has been amended to provide specific antecedent support for the original claim term "ratio" per the Examiner's Final Office Action dated April 8, 2004, as well as claims 30 and 37, which have been amended to take account of the undersigned's observation that structure I(c) was exhibited in the original claims but not referred in the wording of the claims. Considering the foregoing, coupled with the fact that in the last Office Action the Examiner deemed claims 30-34, 37-41, 44-48, and 51-55 allowable, all outstanding matters are submitted to be addressed except that Applicants submitted an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) on March 31, 2004 that apparently has not been considered. The purpose of this RCE is to have the Examiner consider that IDS as well as the above-proposed amendments.

The undersigned hereby respectfully petitions for a two-month extension of time in which to respond to the outstanding Office Action and hereby authorizes the Commissioner to debit his deposit account, no. 502728, for the sums \$385 (RCE; 37 CFR 1.17(e)) and \$210 (Two-month extension; 37 CFR 1.17(a)) and any other amount that may be due or owing in this matter.

Should any issues or questions remain, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at 858.485.0513 so that they may be promptly resolved without the need for an additional formal action and response thereto.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 9/8/04

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